

Rural health care is provided in a vast number of ways that are unique to specific communities. In Minnesota, we have one nursing home that operates an emergency room without a hospital to serve their citizen's needs. Especially since last year, all kinds of rural health care providers need information access capabilities to become informed and collaborate with others.

Our association strongly recommends that the following types of providers that are now ineligible to participate in this program be included as eligible entities:

1. ambulance services based in rural communities, or those that serve rural communities;
2. nursing homes;
3. private non-profit health clinics;
4. private non-profit physician clinics;
5. home health/hospice agencies; and,
6. blood banks